

(Mr. Ri, Democratic People's Republic of Korea)

The decision taken this year, marking the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the partial nuclear test-ban-Treaty by the Conference on Disarmament, to begin negotiations for a comprehensive nuclear test-ban treaty (CTBT), may be described as historic. Its scope is very vast, even though this is but a first step, given the time and efforts devoted to the achievement of this objective. It is common knowledge that nuclear testing involves many politico-military dimensions and immeasurable risks. Nuclear tests themselves represent a most dangerous arms race among the nuclear Powers and constitute a principal source of nuclear arms proliferation. If we do not achieve a halt to all nuclear tests, it will not be possible to avoid nuclear multipolarization, which would enable each of the nuclear Powers to become a pole, and the race for nuclear superiority among a number of poles would lead to a danger incomparable to the era of the bi-polar cold war. Then the moratoriums on nuclear testing announced last year and the decisions to extend the moratoriums on nuclear testing, taken respectively by the United States, the Russian Federation and France, prompted the support and active encouragement of the international community, the States possessing nuclear weapons must certainly have become resigned to the imminence of a comprehensive nuclear test ban.

At the present time certain countries have become very active to become permanent members of the Security Council of the United Nations. When we note that the five countries which are currently permanent members of the Security Council are all nuclear-weapon States, the intentions and the efforts of a country which is already adequately endowed with nuclear facilities and has the capacity to produce nuclear weapons at any time in seeking membership pose a serious problem for the international community. My delegation fully supports the initiative taken by a number of representatives to begin without delay the negotiation of a CTBT, now that conditions and the climate are favourable, and to conclude it in 1995.

Mr. LEDOGAR (United States of America):

... I am taking the floor to acknowledge the excellent report that Dr. Ola Dahlman introduced last week, and that we are approving today, on the recent meeting of the Group of Scientific Experts (GSE). My Government is pleased that preparations for GSETT-3 are well under way. Like others, we attach great importance to this seismic experiment, and the recent GSE report provides important details about the experiment's schedule and preparation. I would like to take this opportunity, as we have done in the past, to stress the importance of wide participation in the upcoming GSETT-3 experiment. Delegations in this room can contribute to its success, but participation across each hemisphere is extremely important.